

ABSTRACT

A compressed tampon having an insertion end, a withdrawal end, a longitudinal axis, a radial axis, and an outer surface. The outer surface of the tampon has a plurality of recessed portions. Each of the recessed portions comprises a length dimension, a first side wall, and a second side wall. The first side wall and the second side wall both have proximal ends, opposed distal ends, and wall dimensions extending between the proximal end and the distal end. The proximal ends of the first and second side walls intersect one another to form a vertex. The recessed portion has a depth dimension as measured parallel to the radial axis from an imaginary line connected by the distal end of the first side wall and the distal end of the second side wall to the vertex. The depth dimension varies as measured along at least a portion of the length dimension.